Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, prior to the first paragraph which begins on line 3, please insert the following:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

On page 1, prior to the second paragraph which begins on line 11, please insert the following:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 1, line 31 and ends on page 2, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Furthermore, a failsafe, limit-level switch is known, which is sold by ~~the assignee~~ Endress + Hauser under the designation "FDL60/FTL670." This failsafe, limit-level switch is approved as overflow protection for applications with high, and extremely high, safety requirements; that is, in the case of this known limit level switch, it is guaranteed that, in every type of failure and malfunction, it remains in the safe state, or instantaneously transitions into the safe state. This state corresponds e.g. to the closing of the supply valve.

On page 4 , prior to the paragraph which begins on line 21, please insert the following:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 5, line 6 and ends on page 5, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In accordance with an advantageous embodiment of the limit switch of the invention, the sending/receiving unit is a disc-shaped piezoelectric element, on whose side facing away from the oscillatable unit an electrode structure is provided, which has at least a sending/receiving electrode, a receiving/sending electrode, and a ground electrode. Furthermore, it is provided that the sending/receiving and the receiving/sending

electrodes are semi-circular, the ground electrode is bar-shaped, and the sending/receiving electrode and the receiving/sending electrode are arranged mirror-symmetrically with respect to the bar-shaped, centrally-arranged, ground electrode. A corresponding embodiment of a piezo drive for a limit switch is already known from EP 0 985 916 A1. Naturally, other embodiments of the sending/receiving unit can also be used in connection with the apparatus of the invention. Furthermore, the invention can also be structured along the principles of the known, and previously mentioned, Endress + Hauser failsafe, limit-level detector ~~of the firm Endress+Hauser~~.

On page 5, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 24, please insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 5, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 29, please insert the following:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 5, line 29 and ends on page 6, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The apparatus 1 shown in Fig. 1 is, as already explained above, suitable both for fill level detection and for determining the density of a medium located in a container. While in the case of fill level detection, the oscillatable unit 2 transitions into, or out of, an immersed state upon the reaching of the limit level, it must, in contrast, be continuously immersed in the medium at a predetermined immersion depth [[h]] for the purpose of monitoring or determining the density . The container can be, for example, a tank, or a pipe, through which the medium is flowing.

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 6, line 13 and ends on line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

At its end region extending into the container, the housing of the vibratory detector 1 is closed-off by the membrane 5, with ~~the~~ a membrane 5 being clamped in its edge region into the housing. The oscillatable unit 2, which extends into the container, is mounted

on the membrane 5. In the illustrated case, the oscillatable unit 2 is embodied as a tuning fork, comprising two oscillating tines 3, 4, separated from one another, mounted on the membrane 5, and projecting into the container.

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 7, line 18 and ends on line 32, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The electrical, received signals are forwarded to a first control/evaluation unit 10, and to a second control/evaluation unit 11, via data lines 8, 9. In the illustrated case, an error report is transmitted to the operating personnel via the output unit 14. In parallel therewith, the supply valve 21 is closed, when the limit switch is being used as overflow protection. In the case of use of the limit switch as protection against running empty, the pump is shut off. Furthermore, Fig. 1 shows the monitoring or process control station 12, arranged remotely from the vibratory detector 1. The control/evaluation units 10, 11 and the monitoring station 12 communicate with one another via the data ~~line~~ lines 13. Preferably, because of the heightened interference protection of the transmission, the communication occurs on a digital basis, according to one of the known transmission protocols.

Please delete page 9 in its entirety.